

P17029.A14



[Handwritten signature]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Yasuhiro YAMAMOTO

Confirmation No.: 9849

Serial No. : 09/200,853 ✓

Group Art Unit: 2626

Filed : November 30, 1998

Examiner: Mark WALLERSON

For : IMAGE READING DEVICE

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street S.
Customer Window, Mail Stop _____
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

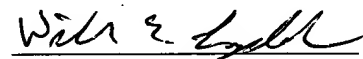
Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowability, mailed by the Patent and Trademark Office on October 7, 2004 and to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance attached thereto, Applicant wishes to clarify the record with respect to the basis for the patentability of claims in the present application. In this regard, while Applicant does not disagree with the Examiner's indication that certain identified features are not disclosed by the references, Applicant submits that each of the claims in the present application recite a particular combination of features, and that the basis for patentability of each of these claims is based on the totality of the particular features recited therein.

P17029.A14

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned
at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Yasuhiro YAMAMOTO



Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

William E. Lyddane
Reg. No. 41,568

January 3, 2004
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191